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14 April 1951

MEMORANDUM FOR: Colonel Tafte

The DCI asked me to request Colonel Tafte to pass on the following general oral message to General Willoughby with regard to [redacted]

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The DCI had a very frank talk with [redacted] before his departure for [redacted]. In this talk the DCI made it perfectly clear to [redacted] that in peacetime and except in an active war theater, his functions with respect to clandestine warfare were purely of a planning nature and in no respect operational. Furthermore, the new Psychological Strategy Board, recently approved by the President and to be announced shortly, would as a matter of urgency consider as one of its first orders of business the so-called "M Directive" in order to eliminate any possible conflict with the CIA Charter under clear NSC directives. Confidentially, it was probable that the DCI would be Chairman of that Committee since Mr. Lovett, whom the DCI and Mr. Webb desired to chair the Committee, felt that he could not take on this added responsibility at this time.

There is no doubt in the minds of any of the three members of this Committee as to where [redacted] functions fit in with the overall strategy and that, to repeat, is purely planning in areas and times of peace.

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Allen W. Dulles

AWD:at

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